

The Car Service Mechanic: An Example for General Exemption in the German Car Service Sector

**CEDEFOP EXPERT WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINING
PERMEABILITY, IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS,
TESTING CREDITS**

Brussels, 23.1.12

**Frank Musekamp
Institut Technik und Bildung
Universität Bremen**

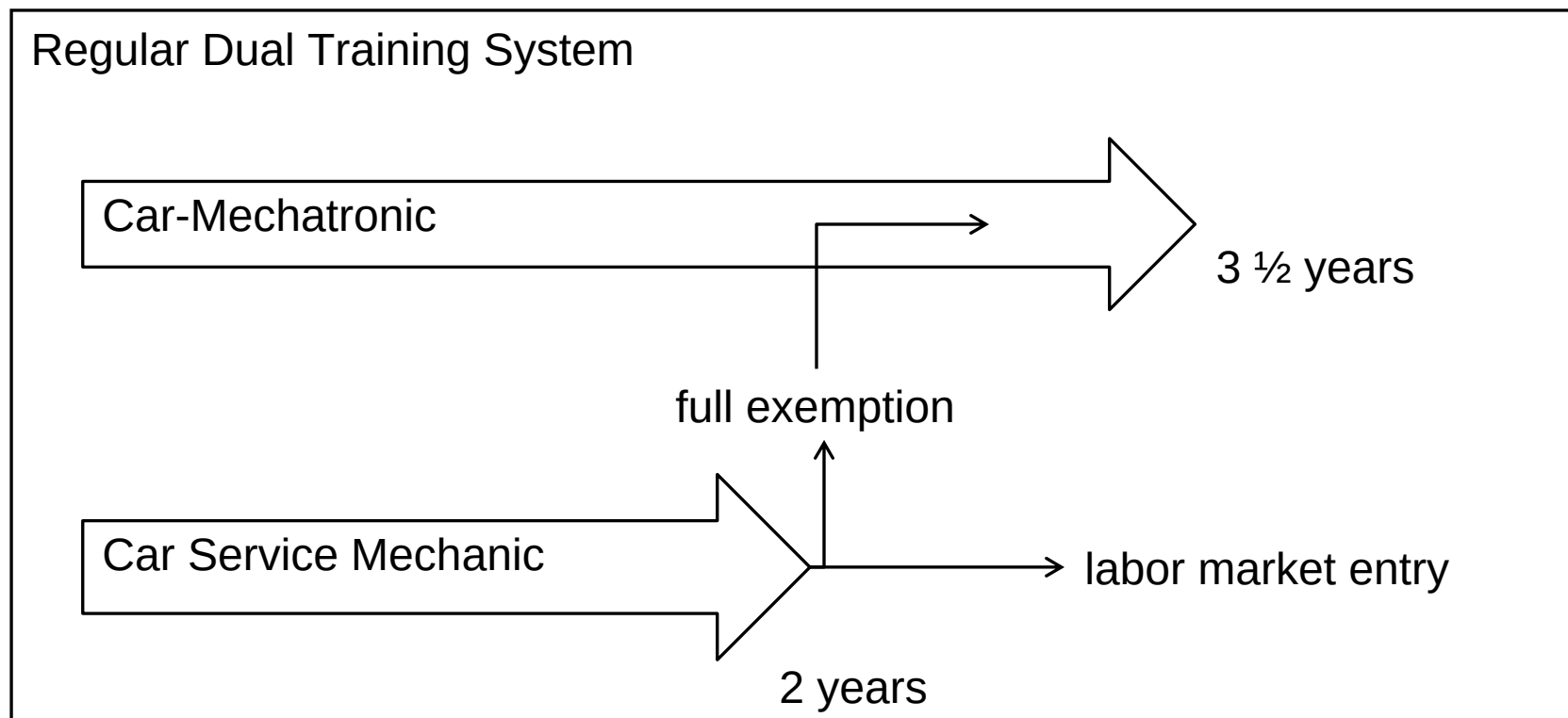


Background

- the Car-Mechatronic is the core occupation in the German Car Service Sector
- its image is that of an it-specialist or knowledge-worker
- Access to the Car-Mechatronic got more and more limited to leavers of the „higher“ secondary schools („Realschule“ & „Hauptschule“)
- access for „disadvantaged“ young people to their traditional working field became more and more difficult

Car Service Mechanics & Car Mechatronics

- the training period “shall not be more than three years and not less than two years” (BBiG, §5, 2)



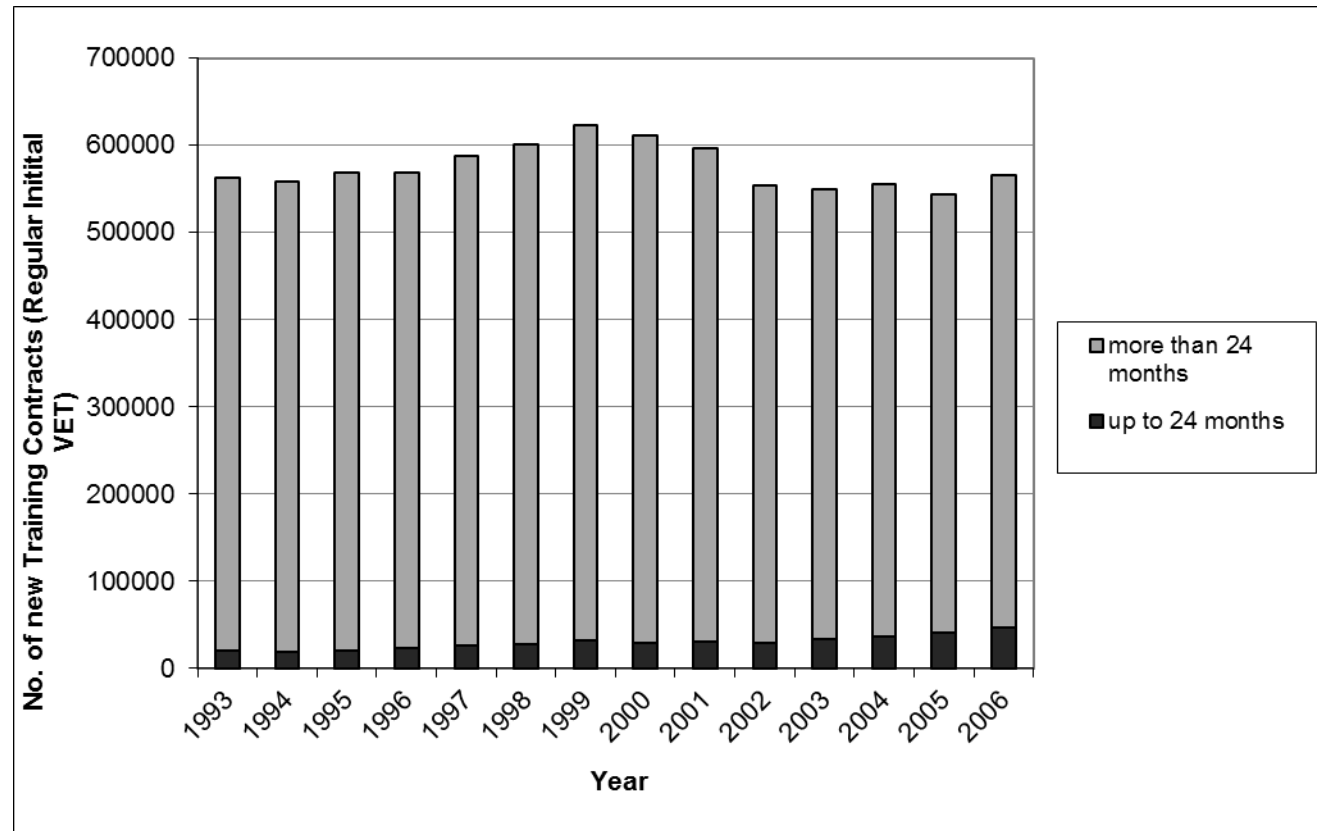
Objectives of 2 year occupation:

- more disadvantaged young people should be trained in the sector
- the proportion of drop-outs should decrease
- the interest of enterprises to educate apprentices should be stimulated
- the well-performing apprentices would be given an opportunity for transition to the 3.5-year programme

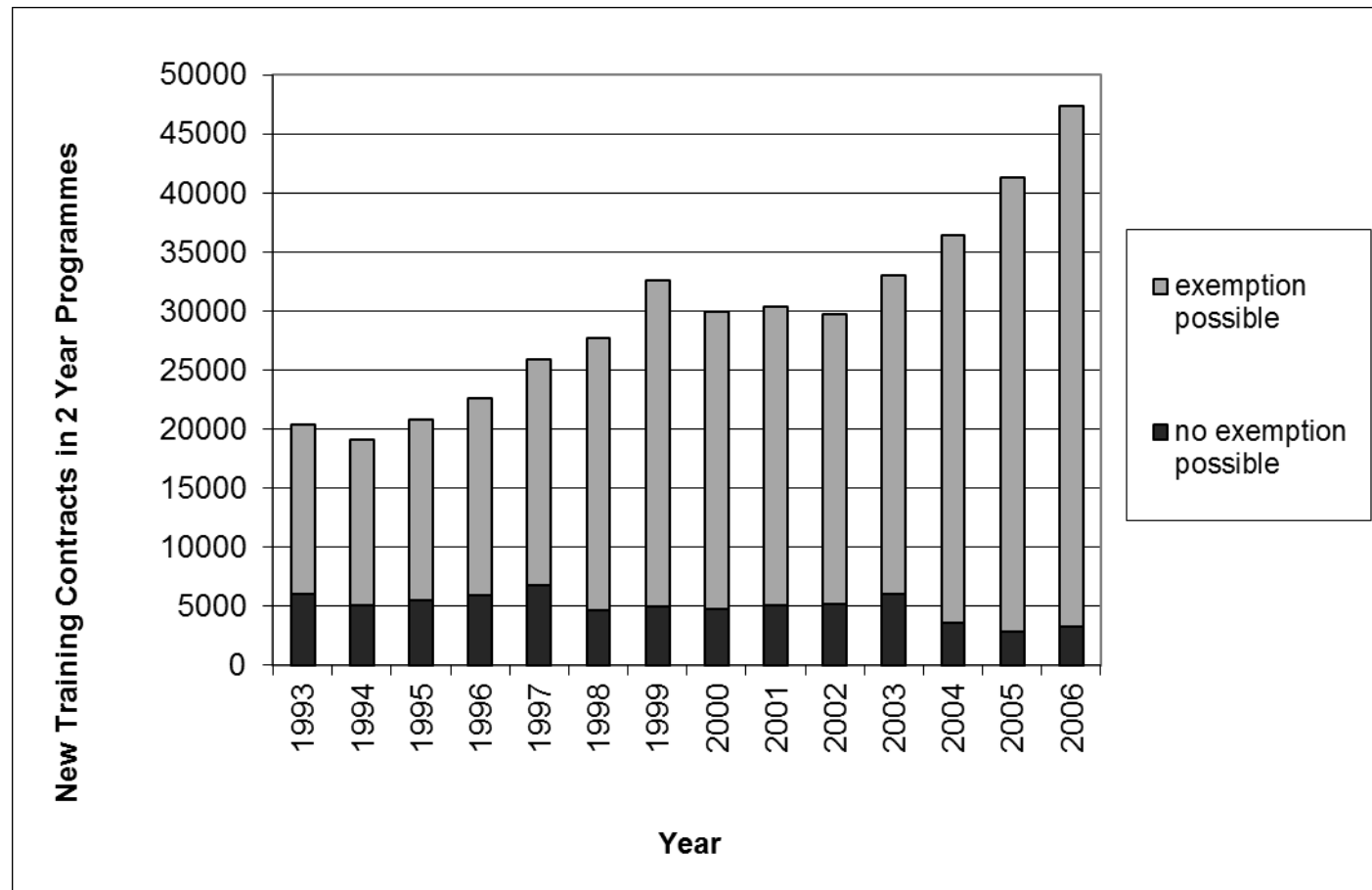
Strengths and Weaknesses

- Strengths:
 - allows access to the regular VET system for “disadvantaged” school-leavers
 - low failure rate in final assessment
 - high Transfer rates to Car Mechatronic (42% in NRW)
- Weaknesses:
 - only 10% of program leavers find adequate employment
 - 2 years of training is little time to acquire sufficient expertise to meet job requirements

New Training Contracts by Duration



New 2 Year Training Contracts by possibility of exemption



Future Prospects

- the Car Service Mechanic will be abolished or
- be integrated as an emphasis into the full occupation (Car-Mechatronic)
- Reasons:
 - lack of labor market demand
 - increasing involvement of professionalised VET providers
 - administrative problems (e.g. with final assessment)

THANK YOU!